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on sunfish is the best evidence that their favorite food, the perch, were scarce. The perch caught ranged mostly from eight to ten inches in length, and I saw very few small ones.

I have been unable to form a satisfactory theory to account for this apparent very great increase in the number of pike and the scarcity of perch. There are no pike in Ampersand Brook, and Stony Creek, the only other means of entrance or exit is shallow, freezing solid in winter. During the period of high water in the spring it would be possible for fish to come through it from Raquette River. During the summer and fall beaver dams, of which there are always several, make it very difficult if not impossible for any fish to pass through this creek.

It may be suggested that there are no more pike in the ponds than in former years—that the greatly increased number caught is owing to the scarcity of their natural food, the perch. As far as I could discover, there had been no epidemic disease among the perch, and no changes in their grounds. Can the pike have eaten or driven them out of the ponds? If there are no more pike than in former years, this could not well be the case. Perhaps the unusually severe winter of 1917-1918 has something to do with it.

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#### **XANTHICHTHYS MENTO FROM SANTA CATALINA.**

Mr. Ernest Windle of Avalon, Santa Catalina Islands, reports that a specimen of "*Xanthichthys*" *mento* has just been taken near Avalon by Mr. F. J. Cole of Los Angeles. The specimen has been mounted and presented to the Tuna Club of Avalon.

This species was first described from the Revillagigedo Islands, West of Mexico. It has also

been taken at Honolulu. I think that *X. mento* is distinct from the Atlantic species, *X. ringens* (L.), as also from the species of the Indian Ocean, *X. lineopunctatus* (Hollard) which is probably the same, as indicated by Jordan and Evermann, "Fishes of North America." in *X. mento* there are no lines of purple spots along the side.

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## THE NAME OF THE HORNED-TOAD FROM THE SALT LAKE BASIN.

Mr. Herbert J. Pack, in the last number of COPEIA (No. 63) pp., 91-92, has some very interesting observations on certain habits of the horned-toad inhabiting Salt Lake City, which he calls *Phrynosoma douglassii douglassii*. A footnote, not by the author, states that "according to Stejneger and Barbour, checklist, this should be *P. hernandesi* (Girard)," the correction apparently being made on geographical grounds since in the Checklist cited the range of *Ph. douglassii* is given as "Oregon and Washington," and that of *Ph. hernandesi* as "the plateau region of Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona."

When preparing my revision of this group of horned-toads (N. Amer. Fauna. No. 3, 1890, pp. 113-115), upon which the distribution data in the Check-list are chiefly based, I had no satisfactory material from the basin of Utah, though I had typical *Ph. hernandesi* from Lieut. Beckwith's trail on the 38 parallel, presumably from the same life zone, viz., the juniper and pinon belt, in which I had observed it in Arizona. Thanks to Mr. Pack's generosity, the material upon which he based his paper is in the U. S. National Museum, and it is now possible to make a more positive statement regarding the identity of the horned-toad from the lower levels of Utah.